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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1911.

Peace—And There Is No Peace.

To-morrow, barring police interference,
there will occur in New York a
function designated by its promoters as
"a peace dinner." It is to emphasize
the value of international tranquility,
but, most inappropriately, all of its pre-
liminaries have been marked by incidents
which are reminiscent of Donny-
brook Fair.

The advance notices of the affair bear
a strong resemblance to the war bullet-
tins that came from Siloney, El Caney,
Kettle Hill, San Juan, and Santiago
thirteen years ago. Now, as in those
stirring days, the spotlight beams fier-
cely upon Theodore Roosevelt. The focal
point, instead of being in a Cuban chap-
arral, is at the colonel's desk. He flits
refuses to attend the banquet. From
sources "usually reliable" comes the
peace note that the militant Contribu-
tion Editor heard that the Taft arbitra-
tion policy was to be endorsed, so he
declined to be among those present, say-
ing he'd "try to dig up a little cold
hash" at Oyster Bay Saturday night.

As if to frighten away the typical
dove, these additional announcements
are duly made:

"Mayor Gaynor sent word to the com-
mittee that he would not serve as chair-
man of the reception committee. It was
explained that the mayor withdrew be-
cause John Temple Graves, one of the
Heard editors, had been selected as
toastmaster.

"Formal announcement was made by
the secretary of the committee that
though President Taft was to be the
guest of honor, it was not the purpose
of the dinner to endorse the President's
peace policy as defined in his treaties.

"It was also intimated that Andrew
Carnegie's plan to read letters and tele-
grams at that dinner endorsing the Taft
treaties would be sat upon."

And one of the New York Sun's
bright young men records this sorrowful
paragraph:

"The gentleman in the tall hat who
came out of the headquarters of the
citizens' peace banquet committee at the
Waldorf yesterday to explain the most
recent row among the peace dinner pro-
moters remained sorrowfully there to
ought to be glory enough for all, even
when you included Andrew Carnegie,
but as for him—never again! Getting
up peace dinners meant just one battle
after another."

It would be humorous if it were not
serious. Too bad that a dinner with so
much excellent object in view should be
marred by a series of events which are
so at variance with universal peace!

The trial of the parkers is likely to last
longer than some of their products.

Partition of China.

According to dispatches from the
Orient, the partition of the vast Chinese
empire, long expected, is at hand. Mon-
golia, the great province lying between
the Chinese wall and Siberia, will be
declared independent of China, and the
simple detail of its annexation to
Russia may be expected to follow short-
ly. Similarly, the Chinese province of
Turkestan will assume its independence,
and in time will pass under the do-
minion of the czar.

These cessations of Chinese territory,
first to independence and by diplomatic
process later to Russia, take away full
half of the empire of China as it has
been known in the last half century.
It makes a large and significant change
in the map of Asia and brings to realiza-
tion the purposes of Russia pursued
doggedly through diplomacy and war
with Japan for thirty years. It brings
Russian influence, arms, power, and
intrigue to the border line of Man-
churia on the east and to that of India
on the southwest. Consequently, both
Great Britain and Japan are at last face
to face with the Russian bear. Russian
aggression in Persia means only that
Great Britain is confronted with a fur-
ther menace to its Indian possessions.

With Russia in possession of Mon-
golia, Chinese Turkestan, and Persia,
the czar will rule about half of Asia,
and no man can foresee what further
advances the land-grabbing policy of
the St. Petersburg government may ac-
complish in the future. China is in
the throes of revolution, or probably its
dependencies of Mongolia and Turkestan
would not have been surrendered. It
would not be incompatible with Russian
statecraft to possess China on some
dark day when that government is even
more helpless than at present. Protests
might arise in the chancelleries of Eu-
rope, but who could stop the Cossack
and the Russian infantry from enter-
ing within the Chinese wall?

Possibly it signifies little to the peo-

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

HOLIDAY COMFORT.
He does his Christmas shopping, a present
from his wife.
And cuts a gift book's pages with a
Christmas paper knife.
A Christmas match he gathers from out
a Christmas jar
And doth prepare to light with care a
holiday cigar.

He doth flip the ashes into a Christmas
urn.
He would not soil his Christmas tie or
his new jacket burn.
He sits with keen enjoyment amid his
Christmas things.
Oh, quite a lot of joys, I wot, the Yule-
tide season brings.

Uncle Pennywise Says:
The dog has implicit trust in mankind.
If nobody else will notice him, he'll rub
up against a snow man.

Below Stairs.
"What your missis kicking about?"
Inquired the housemaid from next door.
"This is her night out, but I told her
I had an engagement myself."

A Contrary Child.
"How very unreasonable baby is."
"As to how?"
"According to the thermometer, the
water is just right for his bath, and yet
he persists in turning blue."

The Aftermath.
After Christmas comes the rumor
Like a flash.
That the ultimate consumer
Gets the hash.

Same Old Trouble.
"What's your wife mad about all the
week?"
"Why, after spending \$4 on Christmas
presents for her folks, I went and squan-
dered 80 cents on my own folks."

Here's One.
"I notice one harbinger of the New
Year."
"What is that?"
"The 1912 models in automobile jokes
are out."

Could Comprehend.
"They say the czar's enormous ex-
penditures baffle imagination."
"Oh, I don't know, I spent \$60 for
Christmas."

TABLOID THOUGHTS.

From the Chicago Record-Herald.

Robert W. Chambers, the novelist, de-
clines that he is a genius. He is doubtless
happy in his domestic relations.

From the Charlotte Observer.

Judging from his recommendation to
Congress, we are disposed to believe that
Secretary Meyer of the Navy Department
is not an enthusiastic advocate of inter-
national arbitration.

From the Kansas City Journal.

Mr. Rockefeller's statement that he is
"as happy as a peacock" is a trifle
ambiguous. A peacock is not supposed
to be very happy just after his tail
feathers have been plucked out.

From the Glasgow Evening Mail.

New claims having been reported on
the planet Mars, they seem to make the
fact of its existence even faster than Col.
Goethals can.

From the Florida Times-Union.

A Chicago woman wants to encourage
people to take a class of
people that need encouragement.

From the St. Louis Star.

Chauffeurs taxicabs who think \$2
small pay for twelve hours' work should
consider that they get a ride free which
ordinary mortals have to pay \$1 an hour for.

SOME COURTS JUST.

Upton Sinclair Finds Himself in a
Troublesome Dilemma.

From the Herald Post.

Upton Sinclair apparently had an idea
that all he had to do was to walk into
court, tell his story, and walk out again
with a divorce decree in his pocket. But
he's been proven to have been mistaken.
There are a few courts that take cogni-
zance of the kind of testimony offered
and once in a while prove to be exact-
ing. Sinclair's case happened to come
up before just that kind of a justice. It
seems that there is a section of law
which prohibits a husband or wife ask-
ing a divorce involving in court any
confession or confession made by the
party complained of. Sinclair did just
that. In his eagerness to win his case
he exposed the limits of the law, and
now he'll have to have his case heard
before another referee.

AN EDITOR AT EIGHTY.

W. P. Payne Still in Harness, Hale
and Hearty.

From the Des Moines Capital.

The low newspaper fraternity will ex-
tend hearty greetings and congratulations
to Mr. W. P. Payne, the senior
editor of the Nevada Representative, who
on Friday last celebrated his eightieth
birthday.

Mr. W. O. Payne, the junior editor,
in referring to his venerable father's
eighty years, observed: "He holds his
vigor notably, and will serve as a re-
minder that the founder of his family,
who came to Plymouth as a boy, set
the pattern of staying in the game until
he was at least ninety-four."

Fight in 1912.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

If, as is probable, the fight in 1912 is to
be between conservatism and radicalism,
the Republicans ought to be able to win
a big victory. The growth in the Repub-
lican section of the country has been
marked in the past ten years. The States
which the Republicans carried in 1908
will have thirty-two of the forty-two ad-
ditional votes which will be in the elec-
tional college next year. This would mean
an immense majority for the Republican
candidate if the division among the
States at the polls would be the same as
was then. No Republican, however,
believes that his party will carry next
year every State which it won three
years ago. It will be sure to lose some
of those States.

Murder.

From the Baltimore Evening News.

Early yesterday morning a handful of
men defied the law of this State, of the
United States, of civilization. King
Johnson was a murderer. There is no
doubt of that. Had his case come to
trial, he would have paid for his crime
with his life. The man who killed John-
son was a murderer worse than he him-
self. He shot in passion; they in cold
blood. He took life in defiance of the
law; they took life to defeat the course
of justice. Their crime was not only
against society, but against the majesty
of the State.

Unto those men have been found, tried,
convicted, and made to pay the penalty.
This State's good name must remain
clouded.

From the Pasadena News.

The wool tariff is bound to be sheared
now. Every man in Washington has
sharpened his shears and the poor beast
will do well to escape with his life.

From the Little Rock (Ark.) Gazette.

One of the far-reaching effects of the
muttulation of the big canvas, "The Bat-
tle of Lake Erie," in the Capitol at
Washington will be that the Capitol
golden must get their self-known line of
talk stereotyped anew in at least one
spot.

From the Vancouver (B. C.) Record.

Washington claims the banner for
Christmas giving, the sum of almost a mil-
lion and a half having been spent in the
work, an average of \$2.00 for every man,
woman, and child in the district.

From the Dallas Morning News.

Senator Kenyon, of Iowa, has intro-
duced a bill to abolish the Senatorial
bathrooms and barber shops. He is in
favor of each Senator paying for his
own bathing and barbering, including the
sund and talcum powder. Senator Ken-
yon, the entire population, including the
great unwashed, is with you.

THE POLITICAL PROCESSION

Maryland's Republican Convention.
It developed here yesterday that the
recent visits of Collector William F.
Stone to the White House were not made
solely for the purpose of conferring with
Mr. Charles D. Hilles about the Republi-
can convention. President Taft wants
the endorsement of the Maryland Republi-
can convention as early as possible for the
effect it will have on other States.
The convention will probably be held in
March, and the delegates will be pledged
for Taft.

It is believed here by the Republican
leaders, especially the friends of Mr.
Taft, that an early endorsement of the
Taft administration by a delegation so
close to Washington as that of Mary-
land will help the candidacy of the Presi-
dent.

La Follette's Following.

At the La Follette campaign head-
quarters, a statement was issued yester-
day to the effect that "as the result of a
national plebiscite, or referendum, con-
ducted during a period of sixty days by
the Farm and Home magazine, the strik-
ing fact appeared that La Follette re-
ceived a total of 2,300 votes for the
Presidency, as against 363 for Roosevelt
and 1,062 for Taft. While the character-
istic La Follette strength is shown in the
States of the middle West, two surprising
items in the poll evidence that the Wis-
consin Senator is head and shoulders
above all other candidates in New Eng-
land and the South."

Will Seek Another Term.

Adna Romulus Johnson, of Ironton,
the only Ohio man of either party who
ever declined a Congressional nomination
after it had been made, came to town
yesterday, expressing joy that he was
no longer a public servant. Romulus
has been in the public service for many
months in Washington, and was ac-
cording the usual courtesy of a second
nomination in a district reliably Republi-
can. Then he gave his law business
a good advertisement by declaring he
simply could not neglect it for Congress,
and the committee, composed of six able
people from the counties picked by R.
M. Switzer as the nominee. There was
some complaint about this short-cut
method of naming a candidate, but it had
been decided that Switzer was one of five
Republican candidates from Ohio; so he
didn't do so badly, despite the method of
his nomination. He will ask a second
term, but may have a contest.

Harmon's Invasion of Illinois.

The preference of Gov. Harmon for
East St. Louis on January 5 rather than
Washington is given much commendation
by his Democratic admirers in
Washington. They cannot see that the
governor can gain anything by coming
west, while he might gain much in Illi-
nois with the Roger Sullivan people and
the old-fashioned Democratic organiza-
tion.

The announcement by Sullivan that he
will not ask another term as member of
the National Committee comes just be-
fore the Harmon invasion of the State
and may portend that Sullivan wants
full freedom to do his thing for a Har-
mon delegation. Hearst has long been
fighting Sullivan for control of things
in Illinois and is reported backing Con-
gressman Henry T. Rainey for the Na-
tional Committee next year. Following
Sullivan's announcement there will be a
fight from now on to elect delegates from
every district to the State, with Hearst
much more eager to elect delegates
against Harmon than in favor of some
one else. Harmon knows all this and
even his foes concede that he is showing
courage by going into the State at this
time, practically under the Sullivan
chaperonage.

There is increased interest in Wash-
ington over the Harmon invasion of Illinois
because he is to speak on the tariff at
the Jackson banquet. Not only will Illi-
nois Democrats be present, but as East
St. Louis is only across the river from
Missouri it is expected that Democrats
from every district of the State, with Har-
mon much more eager to elect delegates
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Audience Dismisses Question.

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question was discussed informally by
those in the audience. Among those who
took advantage of the opportunity to
express their thoughts was Dr. Mary Wal-
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tel, of New York.

Maj. W. P. Judson, Engineer Commis-
sioner, delivered the address of welcome
to the audience. Dr. Franklin
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Two sessions will be held to-day in the
Hotel Hamilton. The first session will
begin at 2 o'clock. The theme of the ad-
dresses being "A review and outlook for
pension reform." The second session
will begin at 8 o'clock. The sessional
topic will be "The corporate problem of
to-day."

Changing Districts in Kentucky.

Kentucky Congressmen are worried a
bit over the assurance from home that
the new Democratic legislature will
change the districts. Representative
James H. Brown, already strongly Demo-
cratic, will be given a larger majority by
the addition of Christian County. Ohio
County is given to Stanley, and stiffens
his district enough to please. Caleb Pow-
ers, one of the two Republicans, loses
Adair County, which goes to aid Ben
Johnson, and Powers is not sorry to see
it go. John Langley, the other Republi-
can, loses Clark County, which goes to
help Harvey Helm in the Covington dis-
trict, across from Cincinnati. There is
promised such a general shift of coun-
ties that the Powers and Johnson dis-
tricts, both Republican members will have
to bump themselves in making new or-
ganizations, although they are hardly
inclined to do so, especially in a
Presidential year.

WHY LIVING IS HIGH.

Subject Being Discussed This Week
in Washington.

From the St. Paul Dispatch.

The American Economic Association
will convene at a conference, the advisability
and the practicability of constituting
a commission of experts to investigate the
high cost of living. Economists are tak-
ing notice of the rise of the cost of liv-
ing, not only in this country, but gener-
ally throughout the world, and are curi-
ous to know what are the facts which
explain it, first, the fall in the purchasing
power of the monetary unit, and second,
the changes in the total purchasing power
of incomes, especially wages; which ac-
count point deals with the relation of wages
to cost of food, clothing, and rent. This
is to be an international commission, as
the conditions to be dealt with are not
confined to this country.

It is gratifying to find the American
Economic Association disposed to go into
something comprehensive along this line.
Nothing could be more practicable, and
the results of the inquiry should justify
in the public mind the theorizing of the
professional economists. Here is his
chance to make good. His conclusions
are not always regarded as of the highest
value by practical men, but in this
instance he ought to be able to render a
service that will pay him for what he
does. The cost of living is due to higher
standards as well as to the inflated cost
of articles of consumption; that it is not
alone that we pay too much for what we
get, but that we get more.

But this is anticipating the work of the
commission. It is to be hoped that it
will be able to do its work in a manner
that will have all the facts it will be able
to present.

CIVIC ALLIANCE

FAVORS PENSIONS
Means Economy and Effi-
ciency, Speaker Says.

DIFFER AS TO BEST METHOD

**Representative Gillett Refers to
Present Wage Rate as Arbitrary
and Suggests Compulsory Form
of Pensioning, While Others
Urge Contributory Plan.**

Characterizing the present salaries of
civil service employees as "arbitrary and
outrageous," Representative F. H. Gillett,
of Massachusetts, in an address last
night at the opening session of the Ameri-
can Civic Alliance, strongly favored the
enactment of legislation providing for
civil pensions and for a general increase
in rates of compensation in all branches
of the Federal Government. Representa-
tive Gillett said that the pension propo-
sition is one of economy and efficiency,
and that the government would gain in-
terests of loss by the introduction of the
proposed plan.

"There ought to be an immediate in-
crease in the salaries throughout all
branches of the Federal Government,"
said Representative Gillett. "The present
rates of compensation are arbitrary and
outrageous. The crying need is to
give justice to the employee who has
grown old and gray in the public serv-
ice."

Favors Compulsory Pensioning.

Mr. Gillett spoke in favor of a com-
pulsory contribution plan of pension
and retirement. The subject of his ad-
dress was "Public service pensioning
from the government's standpoint."
"Naturally," said the Representative,
"the civil service employee wants a
straight pension. If I were an employ-
ee, I should want one, too. It is undoubt-
edly the most desirable form of pension
for the employee, but the government
must be taken into consideration. In
considering any kind of legislation of
this nature, the government must be
remembered. Now, in my opinion, straight
pensions are unattainable, for the reason
that Congress and the great mass of
people are not in favor of such legisla-
tion. The recent civil war pension propo-
sition made the people of the entire
country shudder, and so does the fact
that pension plan, because of the great
expense attached."

He said that the compulsory plan of
contribution is necessary, because of the
fact that the average person is not
thrifty. He explained in detail the pen-
sion bill which bears his name, showing
that the cost of putting the plan into
operation would cost the government
\$2,000,000 in the first year, and that
after that length of time the em-
ployees would be self-supporting, relieving
the government of the burden.

Speakers' Ideas Differ.

Although all the speakers strongly in-
dorsed the pension plan in main, there
was some difference of opinion with re-
spect to the form of legislation needed.
Mr. F. O'Donoghue, director of the United
States Retirement Association, in a
speech on "Civil service retirement
from the employees' standpoint," took
issue with Representative Gillett in re-
gard to the form of contributory plan.
Mr. O'Donoghue strongly opposed the
compulsory contribution plan.

"What really should be done concern-
ing pensions and insurance of govern-
ment employees," was the subject of an
address by Miles M. Dawson, of New
York, secretary of the Armstrong Insur-
ance Commission. Mr. Dawson spoke in
favor of the straight pension. He said
that the contributory plans have been
absolute failures, without qualification of
any kind, in every country where they
have been tried.

Audience Dismisses Question.

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question was discussed informally by
those in the audience. Among those who
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NATION BACKWARD

IN AERO RESEARCH

**Prof. Rotch Shows Need of
Aviatory Science.**

Declaring that the United States is
"lamentably backward" in providing
means for the study of aeronautics, Prof.
A. Lawrence Rotch, retiring vice presi-
dent of the mechanical science and en-
gineering section of the American Associa-
tion for the Advancement of Science,
yesterday afternoon in his annual ad-
dress predicted that it will be necessary
to establish an aeronautical curriculum
in the technical schools and universities
of this country to keep pace with foreign
nations.

Instruction in aeronautics is now given
in many foreign technical schools and
universities, the best known course of
study being by Prof. Prandtl at the
University of Göttingen," he said. "M.
Bast Zerkow, a wealthy Greek resid-
ing in Paris, has endowed a chair of
aeronautics at the Sorbonne with a fund
of \$140,000, so that France will soon rival
Germany in training students in this
science."

"The United States is almost abso-
lutely lacking to-day in aeronautical
laboratories, the brilliant researches of
Langley, Zeppelin, and Nieuport hav-
ing inspired followers. Our government
maintains no aerodynamic laboratories,
and few of our technical schools or colleges
possess apparatus for this purpose, with
none other regular instruction, though
some investigations have been made by
advanced students."

"The instruction in flying by the so-
called aviation schools is, of course, un-
worthy of consideration, since the best
of these only teach the aviator to op-
erate and repair his machine as the nat-
ural pilot does the chauffeur."

"It appears likely that the demand for
collaborative instruction from young men
wishing to enter aerial engineering as a
profession will soon require the estab-
lishment of regular courses of study
based on the European curriculum, at
the completion of which a degree or cer-
tificate of proficiency should be given
ranking with that conferred on other
professional courses."

VEST POCKET ESSAYS

By GEORGE FITCH
Author of "At Good Old Swash"

Trains are used to transport freight
and passengers, mentioned in the order
of their importance, from hither to yon.
At this particular minute let us consider
passenger trains.

A passenger train consists of an en-
gine, a baggage car, a conductor, a pen-
nont, a brakeman, a brakeman with trou-
ble, and several passenger coaches.
They are very luxurious and are supposed to get
you to your destination on time, for
which you pay from \$5 to \$10 extra.
This explains the fact that you get on
the train before you get on, and there
is a 20 limit.

Local trains stop at all stations and
elsewhere, and are very careless, losing
ten minutes here and thirty minutes
there, the utmost unconcern, like a
messenger boy. They are patronized by
the plain people, and are afflicted with
prehistoric coaches and newsboys, who
prey on the passengers and sell them
the regular main away. People
works in a hoarse whisper at the end
of the car. Local trains run from
"Aughwallow to Streech," according to
the brakeman, and the next station is
"Argiousuuu." If a man is stubborn
about it, he can reach almost any town
in the country on a local train. A man
travelling from New York to San Fran-
cisco on a local train, but it took so
much time that he had to walk back.

Accommodation trains are composed
of freight cars and a caboose, in which
passengers ride on the floor and the ceiling
alternately. Accommodation trains
are so named because they fre-
quently make a side track while a
farmer's hogs get fat enough for him
to ship with profit. Waiting for an

accommodation train and waiting for
Hayley's comet are two operations re-
quiring more patience than
anything else on record.

Passenger trains transport their pas-
sengers to terrestrial points for from 1
to 2 cents a mile and to the great be-
yond occasionally without extra charge.
In the Middle West the rate is 3 cents a
mile, but in the sparsely settled East
the poverty stricken lines manage to get
3 cents a mile in most instances.

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STATESMEN,